

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with the office of Peter Hagerty on 3/31/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims:

Claim 11 has been amended to replace "The process according to any of claims 1" with --The process according to claim 1--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The Applicants arguments paired with the amendment to the independent claims were persuasive and the rejections presented in the Previous Office Action are withdrawn.

3. As this application has the oldest filing date in comparison to the two companion cases presented in the Non-Statutory double patenting rejection presented previously, the double patenting rejections are withdrawn for this application as it is the first to be indicated as allowable.

4. Claims 1-2, 4-13, 15-21, and 23-28 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

6. The primary reason for allowance is that a composition (or its use in the papermaking industry) has not been shown to be made up of a single polymer that includes the claimed set of monomers in conjunction with a chelating agent in the claimed ratio.

7. The claims present that the molar ratios of monomers n, m, and k all must add up to be 1. The Examiner understands this to require that no other monomers are present in the single polymer claimed as the molar ratios of the three monomers could not equal 1 if there were additional monomers or copolymers included in the single polymer as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JACOB T. MINSKEY whose telephone number is (571)270-7003. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Daniels can be reached on 571-272-2450. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1741

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JTM

/Matthew J. Daniels/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1741